ry to the remark of Willdenow, who informs us that the root is the fragrant part possessing the scent of Geum urbanum.

As the volatile oil appears to possess all the medicinal value of this plant, I have not prosecuted its chemical investigation any farther.

The claims of the Solidago to stand as an article of the Materia Medica are of a humble, but not despicable kind. We import and consume many foreign drugs which possess no virtue beyond that of being aromatic, pleasant to the taste, gently stimulant, diaphoretic and carminative. All these properties the Golden rod seems fully to possess. An essence made by dissolving the essential oil in proof spirit, is used in the eastern states as a remedy in complaints, arising from flatulence, and as a vehicle for unpleasant medicines of various kinds. I have employed it to allay vomiting, and to relieve spasmodic pains in the stomach of the milder kind, with satisfactory success. From its pleasant flavour, it serves to cover the taste of laudanum, castor oil, and other medicines, whose disagreeable taste causes them to be rejected by delicate and irritable stomachs.

Mr. Pursh informs us, that this plant when dried, is used in some parts of the United States as an agreeable substitute for tea. He further states,

that it has for some time been an article of exportation to China, where it fetches a high price.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Solidago odora, AITON, *Hort. Kew.* iii. 214.—PURSH, ii. 539. —Virga Aurea Americana, Tarraconis facie et sapore, paniculâ speciosissima? PLUKENET, *Alm.* 389, *t.* 116, *f.* 6.

PLATE XX.

Fig. 1. *Solida odora.*

Fig. 2. *A flower magnified.*

Fig. 3. *A floret of the ray.*

Fig. 4. *A floret of the disc.*

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